

Ground Operations Motor Touring Guides (FINAL)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700354

1. Project Description

A. Statement of GO Activity

Install and maintain route markers and signs at the start/end and along the designated OHV routes that correspond with routes as depicted in one of BLM's guide and map books. The routes and surrounding areas can be toured in an SUV, 4x4, pick-up truck, motorcycle or ATV. In conjunction with the signing the BLM will revise, print and distribute the 51 page guide and map book, "Motor Touring in the Eastern Sierra - Mono County". The revisions in the Guide will indicate that the proper starting point for each of the 10 numbered routes is signed with the corresponding number indicated in the Guide. This is to avoid the public from starting a route which is beyond the operators driving ability (each route has a difficulty rating) or from starting on the wrong route.

Additionally, the Project will assist those persons driving the touring routes to be able to identify that they are still on the proper route and give them confidence they are staying on the designated route. This will reduce the chance of driving on routes not designed for motor touring and reduce negative environmental impacts as well as enhance the off-highway driving experience.

Information provided for each of the routes includes: what to expect, length of route, driving time, how to get there, Tread Lightly tips and the skill level or difficulty of the route. Also included in the Guide are driving tips, safety check list, where to get information on road conditions, local hospitals, emergency numbers, museums, visitor centers and amenities.

The Guide will be distributed throughout California by Certified Folder Display Service. Certified stocks display racks in hotels, restaurants, local business and chambers of commerce. Additionally, the Guide will be distributed at up to seven trade shows in California by the Mono County Economic Development Agency.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The Project promotes responsible motorized use of public lands in the Eastern Sierra by providing sustainable back country routes and depicts important linkages between communities, resorts, parks, trail systems, natural, cultural and historical recreation areas.

By providing the public with responsible and enjoyable routes of travel they are less likely to venture into sensitive areas, get lost or travel into an area beyond their vehicle's or operator's ability.

In Mono County, tourism is the main driving force of the local economy. Providing the OHV touring public with these opportunities enhances our OHV infrastructure and provides for a sustainable system of routes.

C. Describe the size of the specific Project Area(s) in acres and/or miles

308 liner miles of self guided routes and installation of 15 to 20 route markers and signs.

D. Location and description of OHV opportunities

All Bureau lands in and around the project area have been designated Limited Use (Bishop Resource Management Plan 1993, page 14). This means OHV use is limited to designated routes. The Project area contains hundreds of miles of designated routes open to all OHV use. The routes which will be signed have been chosen because of their sustainability .

2. Rerouting Requirements

Rerouting

(a) Does your project involve rerouting of any roads and trails?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If response to question (a) is 'Yes', a Project timeline, conceptual drawings and site plans are required (See 'Attachments' tab at the top of the screen)

If response to question (a) is 'No', skip details related to rerouting

Additional Documentation

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1. **Project Timeline (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**
2. **Conceptual Drawings and Site Plans (Required if project includes necessary rerouting)**

3 **Project-Specific Maps**

Attachments:

[Route Overview](#)

[Route Markers](#)

4. **Optional Project-Specific Application Documents**

Project Cost Estimate

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____		APP # _____	
APPLICANT NAME :	BLM - Bishop Field Office				
PROJECT TITLE :	Ground Operations Motor Touring Guides (FINAL)			PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	G09-01-05-G02
PROJECT TYPE :	<input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition <input type="checkbox"/> Development <input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations <input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement <input type="checkbox"/> Planning <input type="checkbox"/> Restoration				
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>Install and maintain route markers and signs at the start/end and along the designated OHV routes that correspond with routes as depicted in one of BLM's guide and map books. The routes and surrounding areas can be toured in an SUV, 4x4, pick-up truck, motorcycle or ATV. In conjunction with the signing the BLM will revise, print and distribute the 51 page guide and map book, "Motor Touring in the Eastern Sierra - Mono County". The revisions in the Guide will indicate that the proper starting point for each of the 10 numbered routes is signed with the corresponding number indicated in the Guide. This is to avoid the public from starting a route which is beyond the operators driving ability (each route has a difficulty rating) or from starting on the wrong route.</p> <p>Additionally, the Project will assist those persons driving the touring routes to be able to identify that they are still on the proper route and give them confidence they are staying on the designated route. This will reduce the chance of driving on routes not designed for motor touring and reduce negative environmental impacts as well as enhance the off-highway driving experience.</p> <p>Information provided for each of the routes includes: what to expect, length of route, driving time, how to get there, Tread Lightly tips and the skill level or difficulty of the route. Also included in the Guide are driving tips, safety check list, where to get information on road conditions, local hospitals, emergency numbers, museums, visitor centers and amenities.</p> <p>The Guide will be distributed throughout California by Certified Folder Display Service. Certified stocks display racks in hotels, restaurants, local business and chambers of commerce. Additionally, the Guide will be distributed at up to seven trade shows in California by the Mono County Economic Development Agency.</p>				

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Other-Recreation Planner Notes : Recreation Planner develops work plans for sign and decal design, installation, maintenance and monitors for success; proofs reads and fact finds revision in map book.	80.000	37.000	HRS	0.00	2,960.00	2,960.00

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
Agency: BLM - Bishop Field Office
Application: Ground Operations Motor Touring Guides (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Other-Graphic Art Work Notes : Graphic artist designs guide and map layout for print and Web publishing.	20.000	36.000	HRS	0.00	720.00	720.00
	Seasonal Maintenance Worker Notes : Seasonal maintenance worker installs and maintains sign.	200.000	20.000	HRS	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
	Total for Staff				0.00	7,680.00	7,680.00
2	Contracts						
	Other-Print Guides	20000.00 0	0.800	EA	16,000.00	0.00	16,000.00
	Other-Distribution	1.000	8000.000	MISC	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00
	Total for Contracts				24,000.00	0.00	24,000.00
3	Materials / Supplies						
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-Pick-up Truck Notes : Vehicle mileage for maintenance worker.	5000.000	0.450	MI	0.00	2,250.00	2,250.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
7	Indirect Costs						
	Indirect Costs-Administration Costs	1.000	2400.000	EA	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00
	Total Program Expenses				24,000.00	12,330.00	36,330.00
	TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES				24,000.00	12,330.00	36,330.00
	TOTAL EXPENDITURES				24,000.00	12,330.00	36,330.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2009/2010
 Agency: BLM - Bishop Field Office
 Application: Ground Operations Motor Touring Guides (FINAL)

3/1/2010

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	0.00	7,680.00	7,680.00	
2	Contracts	24,000.00	0.00	24,000.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	0.00	0.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	2,250.00	2,250.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7	Indirect Costs	0.00	2,400.00	2,400.00	
Total Program Expenses		24,000.00	12,330.00	36,330.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		24,000.00	12,330.00	36,330.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		24,000.00	12,330.00	36,330.00	

Environmental Review Data Sheet (ERDS)

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. Does the proposed Project include a request for funding for CEQA and/or NEPA document preparation prior to implementing the remaining Project Deliverables (i.e., is it a two-phased Project pursuant to Section 4970.06.1(b)) (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

ITEM 3 - Project under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378

- c. ITEM 3 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☒ Yes ☐ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- d. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- e. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 4 – 10

ITEM 4 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

No negative impacts from this project will occur to wetlands, navigable waters, and sensitive habitats. Route marker signing and corresponding guide map will have a constructive impact by guiding OHV recreation to sustainable routes and providing public awareness of BLM's rules and regulations, and defining proper user actions and behavior.

Ground disturbing deliverables are limited to route marker signing. The type of signs used is a "Carsonite" type, named after the developer and manufacturer and is made up of a one-quarter inch fiberglass/carbon/resin material. It measures four inches wide and varies in length from four to six feet. It is placed into the ground vertically using a hand driver to pound the stake-like sign about eighteen inches below the surface.

All signs are placed in the designated route right of way or previously disturbed or barren areas. No plants or features are removed during installation and thought is given to traffic patterns around signs to avoid trampling of vegetation. Cryptobiotic soil and other sensitive areas are avoided.

ITEM 5 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

Cumulative impacts due to signing would be minimal and is also discussed in item 4 and 7. All signing within the Bishop BLM resource management area complies with BLM's nation-wide signing policy. Signs are maintained in good order and signs deemed no longer necessary are removed.

ITEM 6 - Soil Impacts

The installation of route markers will not have a significant effect on the environment due to substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil because route markers do not require the movement of soil. Route markers are driven into the ground by hand and measure 1½ inches by ¼ inch.

ITEM 7 - Damage to Scenic Resources

Signs could be a potential risk to scenic resources. Bishop BLM takes every effort to reduce sign "pollution". Signs are placed so as to be least likely visible in the sky line. Furthermore, BLM manages many public land view sheds along County, State, and Federal roads under strict visual resource management guidelines. Refer the Bishop Resource Management Plan (1993)

ITEM 8 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 9 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

Discuss the potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources.

The potential for the proposed Project to have any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources is none. All sign installation will occur adjacent to or within designated routes that have undergone a class III cultural survey.

ITEM 10 - Indirect Significant Impacts

Installation of the route markers along with a guide book are designed to encourage visitors to use the sustainable routes contained within the guide book. Moreover, the guide books have been in print for over 5 years and use patterns have shown the routes are sustainable. The markers will make sure visitors start on and stay on the proper designated routes.

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

Attachments:

[GO Motor Touring CX](#)
[GO Motor Touring DR](#)

Evaluation Criteria

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the cost of the Project covered by the Applicant is 3

(Note: This field will auto-populate once the Cost Estimate and Evaluation Criteria are Validated.) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points)
☐ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☒ 26% - 50% (3 points)
☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Failure to Complete - Q 2.

2. Failure to complete the Project would result in: 8

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 8 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Loss of OHV Opportunity (6 points)
☒ Negative impact to cultural sites (2 points)
☒ Damage to special-status species or other sensitive habitat (2 points)
☒ Potential trespass (2 points)
☒ Additional damage to Facilities (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The route system would fulfill one of the highest needs for recreation identified in the 2007 California Outdoor Recreation Plan, Driving for Pleasure. The routes with guide and maps provide safe, sustainable OHV opportunity and focuses the use on designated maintained routes. Without revision and printing the public would lose out on the opportunity to experience the back country scenic routes highlighted and interpreted the Guide.

A negative impact to cultural sites, damage to sensitive habitat and potential trespass is a real possibility without the Guide. People do explore the back roads of the Eastern Sierra and without the specific and sustainable routes that are marked on the ground and contained in the guide they may take their vehicle into sensitive wildlife habitat, damage cultural sites, and trespass into private property or damage trail facilities due to improper vehicle usage.

3. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 3.

3. The Project would sustain OHV Opportunity by 4

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Maintaining trail or road tread (5 points)
☐ Installing or repairing erosion control features (3 points)
☒ Providing traffic control and/or educational signage (3 points)
☐ Maintaining multi use (ATV, Dirt Bikes, 4x4, etc) (1 point)
☒ Providing varied levels of riding difficulty (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The routes would be well marked easy to follow OHV loops. Each route is rated in the guide book and on the route marker to provide varied levels of skill and challenge. Additionally, the guide contains two pages of educational off-highway vehicle driving tips, safety and user ethics. By matching the route number in the guide with the route marker on the ground the public is assured they are travel on a safe designated route.

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Publicly noticed meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

Efforts to include stakeholders in the Project planning and implementation began with the local Chamber of Commerce in both Inyo and Mono counties.

Interested parties were notified of the opportunity to participate through local newspaper articles, publicly noticed meetings, conference calls, emails, and meetings with partner agencies. Project planning and scoping was extensive and lasted about one year before implementation.

5. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 5.

5. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 4

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 4 or more (4 points) ☐ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s):

Partnerships utilized to complete the project include; Inyo National Forest, LA Dept of Water and Power, National Park Service, Eastern Sierra Interpretive Association, Coalition for the Unified Recreation in the Eastern Sierra, CalTrans and Mono County.

6. Impact to Natural and Cultural Resources - Q 6.

6. The Project will avoid and/or minimize impact to natural and cultural resources by 6

(Check all that apply) : Maximum of 7 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Maintaining physical barriers to control OHV use (1 point)
☒ Protecting water quality (1 point)
☒ Providing bridges instead of wet crossings where appropriate (1 point)
☒ Protecting special-status species (1 point)
☒ Re-routing trails to divert away from riparian/wetlands areas (1 point)
☒ Providing sanitary facilities (1 point)
☒ Protecting cultural site(s) (1 point)
☐ Site design precludes the need for the above measures (7 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

The signed routes protect water quality, sensitive species and cultural sites by directing use away from sensitive areas with watershed, wildlife and cultural values. No wet water crossings, routes cross any riparian or wet meadows and when using the guide book the public can easily find amenities along routes such as restrooms and fuel. The guide would also discuss back country environmental ethics.

7. Recycled Materials - Q 7.

7. The Project incorporates recycled materials by utilizing

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Barrier materials which include recycled content or materials obtained onsite (1 point)
- ☐ Signs, sign posts or education kiosks which use products with recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Erosion control features which use materials with recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Paper used for trail maps which includes recycled content (1 point)
- ☐ Other products with recycled content (Specify) (1 point)

8. Sustainable Technologies - Q 8.

8. The Project makes substantial use of sustainable technologies such as 0

- Alternative fuel vehicles and equipment
- Renewable energy sources (e.g., solar, wind)
- Low volatile organic compound emission materials (e.g., paint, sealants, carpet)
- Low flow plumbing fixtures
- Water efficient landscaping

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☒ No (No points)

☐ Yes (4 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

9. Motorized Access - Q 9.

9. The Project improves and/or maintains facilities that provide motorized access to the following non-motorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

☒ Camping

☒ Birding

☒ Hiking

☒ Equestrian trails

☒ Fishing

☒ Rock Climbing

☐ Other (Specify)